

Janet Napolitano  
Governor

# Office of the Governor

## \* BLACK HISTORY MONTH \*

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month affords us the opportunity to acknowledge the many achievements and accomplishments made by African Americans to America and Arizona and our economic, spiritual, cultural, educational and political development; and

**WHEREAS**, to provide a scholarly balance to history, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson founded The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Woodson worked for the creation of Negro History Week, which became a reality in 1926, and he chose the second week of February for the observance because of its proximity to the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two individuals who Dr. Woodson felt had dramatically affected the lives of African Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Negro History Week was expanded in 1976 to become Black History Month to afford all our citizens the opportunity to recognize and respect the history of individuals of African American descent; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and to look ahead to new challenges with a renewed sense of unity and common purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories and teachings of those who helped build our nation, took a stance against prejudice to build lives of dignity and opportunity, advanced the cause of civil rights, and strengthened families and communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim February 2006 as

## \* BLACK HISTORY MONTH \*

in the State of Arizona, and call upon everyone to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that highlight and honor the indispensable contributions of African Americans in the development of our great Nation and its ongoing crusade for true freedom and equality.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

*Janet Napolitano*  
GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twentieth day of January in the year Two Thousand and Six and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty.

**ATTEST:**

*Janice K. Brewer*  
Secretary of State

